

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The present application is a continuation of and claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/393,410, "OPERATIONAL OPTIMIZATION OF A SHARED SECRET DIFFIE-HELLMAN KEY EXCHANGE AMONG BROADCAST OR MULTICAST GROUPS" by Sunil K. Srivastava, which was filed on September 10, 1999, now abandoned, and is incorporated by reference herein. The present application is related to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/608,831, "Establishing A Shared Secret Key Over A Broadcast Channel" by Srinath Gundavelli and David McNamee, which was filed on June 30, 2000.